



Maryland Child Care Resource Network

Howard County Child Care
Resource Center

Child Care Demographics 2010

Howard County Report

Howard County, encompassing 251 square miles, is located in the center of the Baltimore-Washington Corridor. In the heart of the County lies the 14,000 acre planned community of Columbia. About one half of the County's businesses have located in Columbia, and approximately half of the people in Howard County live in Columbia. The other major area for business activity is the I-95 corridor. Large parts of the northern and western portions of the County still retain a rural character.

Howard County's 8,590 businesses employ 130,250 workers; 286 businesses have 100 or more employees. About one half of the County's business have located in Columbia, occupying more than 28.1 million square feet of space. Major private sector employers include Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream, Giant Food, Inc., Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab., Howard Community College, Howard County General Hospital, Merkle, MICROS Systems, Verizon Wireless, W.R. Grace, SAIC, and Arbitron Inc.

Source: Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED) 2008-2009.

Howard County Child Care Resource Center, the Maryland Child Care Resource Network and Maryland Family Network, Inc. are co-publishers of this Howard County Report for the Network's Maryland Child Care Demographics Report series. The series includes reports for the State, for each of Maryland's 23 counties and the City of Baltimore.

This publication was produced as a work for hire for the benefit of, and with funds from, the Maryland State Department of Education.

Frequently Requested Child Care Information

Child Population 2000

Age Group	Number in age group
0-1	6,974
2-4	11,274
5-9	20,718
10-11	8,251
Total	47,217

Source: Maryland Department of Planning (MDP), 2000 Census Summary File 1.

Child Care Costs as Compared to Other Major Household Expenses

The estimated current median family income in Howard is \$115,390⁶. A family of four that included a couple and two children ages 1-2 and 3-5 years can be expected to have the following yearly household expenses:

Expense	Cost	% of Income
Child Care	\$22,249	19.3%
Infant ¹	\$11,263.72	
Preschooler ²	\$10,985.52	
Food ³	\$ 9,469	8.2%
Housing ⁴	\$18,708	16.2%
Taxes ⁵	\$29,427	25.5%
Total	\$79,853	69.2%

¹Average cost of full-time care in a family child care home (LOCATE, 2009).

²Average cost of full-time care in a child care center (LOCATE, 2009). ³National average cost of food at home based on a moderate cost plan (Cost of Food at Home Estimated for Food Plans at Four Cost Level, September 2009), U.S. Average, United States Department of Agriculture). ⁴Based on U.S. Bureau of the Census 2000 median selected owner costs with a mortgage; included mortgage, taxes, insurance and utilities. ⁵Federal, state, and local income taxes, Medicare, and FICA taxes per IRS and Maryland Office of Comptroller (2009). Taxes do not reflect Earned Income Credit. ⁶Current income as shown in the 2nd Quarter 2009 EDIS Report. This data cannot be compared to previous data.

Average Weekly Cost of Full-time Child Care

Howard County	Family Child Care Programs	Child Care Centers
0-23 months	\$216.61	\$ 302.87
2-4 years	\$180.34	\$ 211.26
5 years ¹	\$165.87	\$ 199.37
School Age Full ²	\$148.55	\$ 181.01
School Age B/A ³	\$103.84	\$ 127.61

Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, 7/09.

¹Average cost of full time care for a 5 year old. Defined as child being in full time child care or being in kindergarten and out-of-school child care, i.e., holidays, school closures and summers. ²Average cost of full time care for a 6+ school age child (out-of-school child care, i.e., holidays, school closures and summers).

³Average cost of before and after school child care.

Number of Howard Children under 12 with Mothers in the Work Force¹

33,146 - 78%² of total 2009 child population under 12 (42,495).

¹Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care. ²Percent based on 2000 census data. Total population number based on Geolytics, Inc. Estimate Professional 2009/2014. Data is not directly comparable to earlier reports.

Population Information

Child Population¹

	1990		2000	
	Howard	Maryland	Howard	Maryland
0-3 years	9,266	216,136	10,559	209,218
3-4 years	5,934	141,682	7,689	144,175
5 years	2,962	69,456	4,004	74,546
6-9 years	10,976	262,917	16,714	316,772
10-11 years	5,087	124,328	8,251	162,481
Total	34,225	814,519	47,217	907,192

¹Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census Summary Tape File 1A (STF 1A), 1990, 2000 Censuses. Age breakdowns prepared by MFN.

Female Population (selected ages)

Age Group	1995 ¹	2000 ²
20-24	6,037	5,538
25-29	9,144	8,263
30-34	11,425	10,732
Total	26,606	24,533

¹Source: MDP Population Projections 7/97.

²MDP Census 2000 Summary File 1.

Work Force Information

Total Population Ages 16+ in Work Force

	Howard	Maryland
1990		
Female	52,633	1,238,003
Male	60,947	1,401,893
2000		
Female	66,041	1,351,034
Male	73,844	1,418,491
Change		
Female	25.5%(+)	9.1%(+)
Male	21.2%(+)	1.2%(+)

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census. Prepared by MDP, April 2002 based on STF 3A.

Females (16+) with Children

Age Group	2000	1990	Change
Total females (16+) with children under 6	9,009	13,153	31.5%(-)
Total females (16+) with children under 6 in the work force	6,218	8,890	30.1%(-)
Total females (16+) with children 6-17	20,583	13,413	53.5%(+)
Total females (16+) with children 6-17 in the work force	16,533	11,343	45.8%(+)

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000 census. Prepared by MDP, April 2002 based on STF 3A.

Total Population

	Howard	Maryland
2000	247,842	5,296,486
1995	218,402	5,046,079
1990	187,328	4,780,753
1980	118,572	4,216,975

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census Summary Tape File 1A (STF 1A), 2000, 1990, 1980 Censuses of Population and Housing and Maryland Department of Planning Data Services, Revisions, 6/95.

Male Population (selected ages)

Age Group	1995 ¹	2000 ²
20-24	6,268	5,495
25-29	9,045	7,731
30-34	11,467	9,793
Total	26,780	23,019

¹Source: MDP Population Projections 7/97. Spread of ages by LOCATE: Child Care

²MDP Census 2000 Summary File 1.

Households

	1990	2000
Total household population	71,895	68,772
Total # of households	29,634	29,322
Average household size	2.43	2.35

Census 2000 Summary File 1. Produced by the Source: Maryland Department of Planning, Planning Data Services.



Census Information

Families and Poverty

	1990	%	2000	%	%Change
All Families	51,232	100%	65,790	100%	28.4%(+)
Families Below Poverty Level	1,141	2.2%	1,688	2.6%	47.9%(+)
All Families w/Children Under 6**	12,105	100%	8,498	N/A*	N/A*
Families w/Children Under 5 Below Poverty Level	462	3.8%	537	N/A*	16.2%(+)
All Families w/Children Under 18	27,850	100%	36,058	100%	29.5%(+)
Families w/Children Under 18 Below Poverty Level	848	3.0%	1,331	3.7%	57.0%(+)

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census. Prepared by MDP, May 2002 based on STF 1, STF 3A. Measurements of poverty status are based in income received from the previous year.

*Comparable data not available from 1990 Census.

**Data collected in 1990 was for children under 5.

Educational Attainment

	Howard	%Adult Pop. Over 25 Yrs	Maryland	%Adult Pop. Over 25 Yrs
High School Grad or Higher	152,041	93.1%	2,930,509	83.8%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	86,437	52.9%	1,099,360	31.4%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000. Prepared by MDP, April 2002 based on STF 3A.

Children and Poverty

	1990	%	2000	%	%Change
Total Related Children Under 18	47,980	100%	65,807	100%	37.2%(+)
Total Children Under 18 Below Poverty Level	1,762	3.7%	2,831	4.3%	60.7%(+)
Total Related Children Under 5	14,857	100%	17,065	100%	14.9%(+)
Total Children Under 5 Below Poverty Level	608	4.1%	706	4.1%	16.1%(+)
Total Related Children 5-17	33,123	100%	48,742	100%	47.2%(+)
Total Children 5-17 Below Poverty Level	1,154	3.5%	2,125	4.4%	84.1%(+)

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census. Prepared by MDP, August 2002 based on STF 3A. Measurements of poverty status are based in income received from the previous year.

Families

Howard

	Total	Total # of All Families With Related Children Under Age 6	Total # of All Families With Related Children Under Age 18
1990	51,232	12,105**	27,850
2000	65,790	8,498	36,058
Change	28.4%(+)	N/A*	29.5%(+)

Maryland

	Total	Total # of All Families With Related Children Under Age 6	Total # of All Families With Related Children Under Age 18
1990	1,256,327	281,342**	649,622
2000	1,359,318	150,011	662,172
Change	8.2%(+)	N/A*	1.9%(+)

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 and 2000 Censuses. Prepared by MDP, April 2000 based on Summary tape File 3A (STF 3A). See "Census of Population and Housing" in definitions section for additional information.

* Comparable data not available for 1990 Census.

**Data collected in 1990 was for children under 5.

Income, Unemployment and Housing Information

Annual Wage Rate Information

Public School Teacher Salary Average (Howard County)	\$65,787
Public School Teacher Salary Average (MD)	\$62,849
Nonpublic School Teacher Average (Maryland)	\$48,622
Family Child Care Provider (Maryland)	\$28,559
Child Care Center Director (Maryland)	\$34,945
Center Senior Staff/Teacher (Maryland)	\$23,927
Center Aide (Maryland)	\$16,048

Sources: MSDE, Oct 2008; Association of Independent Maryland Schools (AIMS), 2009-10 school year, and MFN's 2009 Statewide Survey of Family Child Care Providers and Child Care Centers.

Family Income

Median Family Income, 2000 Census

Howard	\$85,422
Maryland	\$61,876

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census. Prepared by MDP, May 2002 based on STF 3A.

Median Household Effective Buying Income (EBI):

Howard	\$74,044
Maryland	\$53,064

Percent Households

EBI Distribution	Howard	Maryland
under \$25,000	8.2%	17.8%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	20.4%	28.9%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	22.2%	22.3%
\$75,000+	49.2%	31.0%

Source: Reprinted by permission: Copyright © Market Statistics, 2008. Demographics USA-County Ed. Median Household Effective Buying Income (EBI) is not directly comparable to 1997 or earlier reports.

Unemployment Rate

	Howard	Maryland
1996	3.4%	4.9%
1997	2.7%	4.7%
1998	2.8%	4.3%
1999	1.8%	3.3%
2000	1.7%	3.4%
2001	2.8%	4.0%
2002	2.8%	3.9%
2003	2.7%	4.1%
2004	2.5%	3.9%
2005	2.8%	3.9%
2006	2.7%	3.7%
2007	2.7%	3.6%
2008	3.3%	4.5%
2009	5.4%	7.1%

Source: Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR), Sept 2009.

Housing Information

	Howard	Maryland
Owner-Occupied housing	66,479 (74%)	1,341,751 (67.7%)
Renter-Occupied housing	23,564 (26%)	639,108 (32.3%)

Note: Percentage is based on total occupied housing units.

	Howard	Maryland
Mean value of Owner-Occupied Housing	\$206,300	\$146,000
Median Selected Monthly Owner Costs With a Mortgage	\$1,559	\$1,296
Median Gross Residential Monthly Rent	\$879	\$689

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census STF 1A and STF 3A, 2000 Census. Prepared by MDP, May 2002. Percentage based on total occupied housing units prepared by MFN.

Supply of Regulated Early Childhood Programs and Education

Children's Programs by Type with Capacity/Enrollment

	# of Programs	Capacity
Family Child Care Providers	449	3,258
*OCC Licensed Group Programs	167	11,438
8-12 Hour Child Care Centers	82	7,169
Infant/Toddler	48	941
Part-Day	28	N/A
Before/after School (School & Center-Based)	103	N/A
Employer-Sponsored Centers	6	165
Youth Camps	44	N/A
Nursery Schools	39	N/A
Kindergarten	20	N/A
**Head Start	3	enrollment: 264
***Public Pre-Kindergarten	25	

*Note: Numbers do not total because facilities may have more than one type of program. Unless otherwise indicated, all programs are privately funded.

= federally funded *= state funded

Source: MFN/LOCATE Child Care, 7/09; Maryland State Department of Education; Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

Education

Public and Private Schools (Elementary and Middle)

	Public	Private
Elementary Schools	39	6
Middle Schools	18	0
Combined	1	12

Elementary School Enrollment

	Public	Private
Pre-Kindergarten (included EEEP):	1,019	1,967
Kindergarten	3,309	451
Grades 1 - 6	17,531	2,127
Total	21,859	4,545

Source: MSDE, 2008-09 school year. Enrollment figures are for September 30, 2008. Private schools include MSDE approved schools and those operated by a tax-exempt religious organization which hold a letter of exemption from approval in accordance with State law.

Density of Family Providers and Center Programs by Community/Zip Code

The following chart shows the number of registered family child care providers and licensed full-day child care centers in Howard as of July 1, 2009.

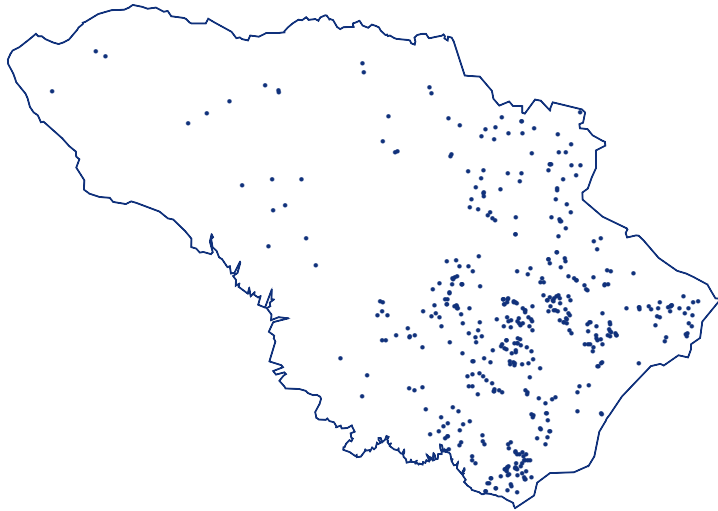
Community/ Zip Code	Family Providers	%	8-12 Hour Centers	%
Clarksville 21029	13	2.9	5	6.1
Columbia 21044	47	10.5	11	13.4
Columbia 21045	98	21.8	17	20.7
Columbia 21046	27	6.0	7	8.5
Cooksville 21723	3	0.7	1	1.2
Dayton 21036	2	0.4	1	1.2
Elkridge 21075	52	11.6	6	7.3
Ellicott City 21042	37	8.2	10	12.2
Ellicott City 21043	48	10.7	5	6.1
Fulton 20759	1	0.2	5	6.1
Glenelg 21737	2	0.4	0	0.0
Glenwood 21738	2	0.4	1	1.2
Hanover 21076	6	1.3	0	0.0
Highland 20777	2	0.4	0	0.0
Jessup 20794	17	3.8	2	2.4
Laurel 20723	73	16.3	5	6.1
Lisbon 21765	0	0.0	1	1.2
Marriottsville 21104	3	0.7	3	3.7
Mt. Airy 21771	3	0.7	0	0.0
Savage 20763	5	1.1	0	0.0
Sykesville 21784	2	0.4	0	0.0
West Friendship 21794	1	0.2	0	0.0
Woodbine 21797	3	0.7	1	1.2
Woodstock 21163	2	0.4	1	1.2
Totals	449	99.8%	82	99.8%

Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, 7/09. Note: Percentages do not total 100% because of rounding.

Supply of Regulated Child Care

Density of Regulated Family Child Care Homes in Howard County

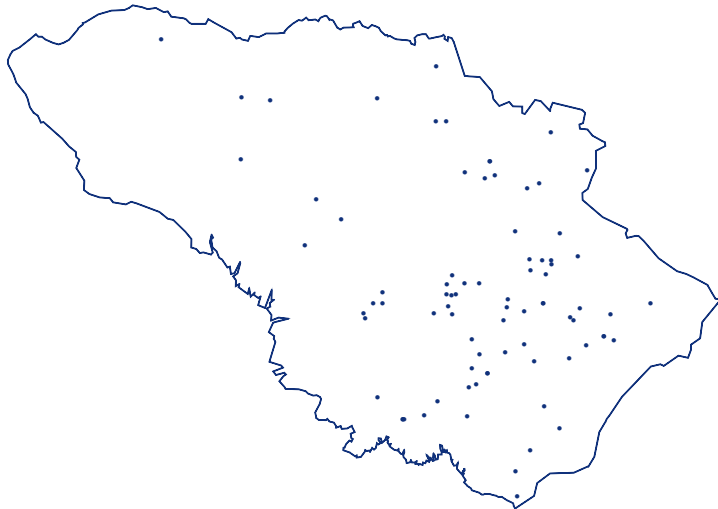
1 dot = 1 home



Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, 7/09.

Density of Licensed 8-12 Hour Child Care Centers in Howard County

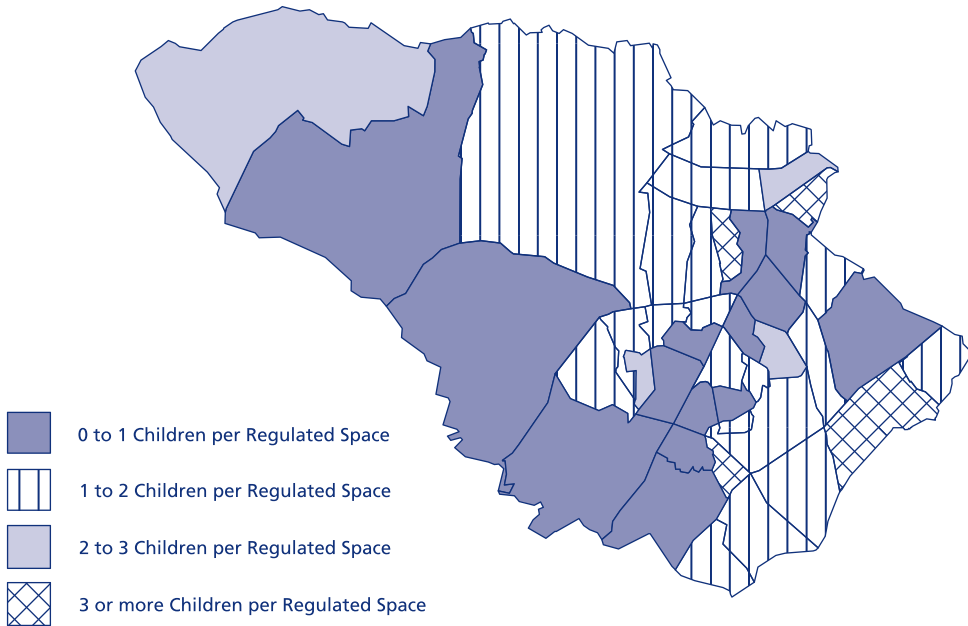
1 dot = 1 center



Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, 7/09.

Supply of Regulated Child Care

Number of Children 0-5 Years Per Regulated Child Care Space by Census Tract

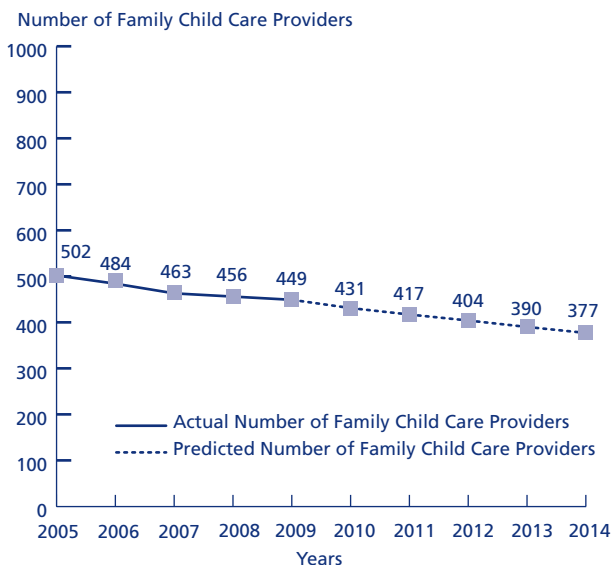
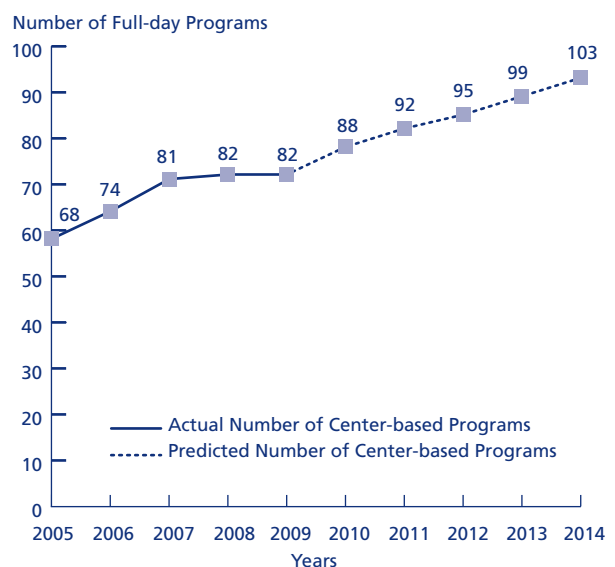


This map is based on the total population of children 0-5 yrs. Child population numbers are taken from Geolytics, Inc. Estimate Professional 2009/2014. When assessing the need for child care, the results of the National Child Care Survey 1990 also should be considered which indicate that approximately 66% of the working mothers surveyed used no supplemental care or utilized care by relatives, caregivers in the child's own home, or other arrangements. Only 34% utilized care in regulated out-of-home settings. See "National Child Care Survey 1990" in definition section for additional information.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census STF 3B, 2000 Census; MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, 7/09.

Past and Anticipated Growth Patterns for Family/Center Providers

Family Child Care Providers in Howard 2005-2014

Center-based Programs in Howard 2005-2014
Full-day (8 to 12 hours)

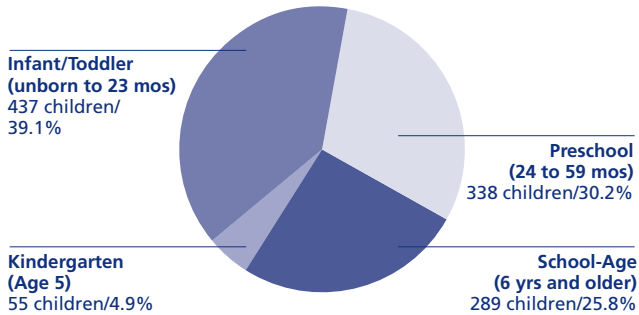
These predictions were generated with the use of the Cycle Regression Analysis Model. This model is being developed as part of the FORECAST system by Dr. LeRoy Simmons and Mr. George Wright of Loyola College. The predictions generated by the Model do not reflect the effects of current changes to social programs affecting child care. For further information, contact Arna Griffith, 410.752.7588.

Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, 7/09.

Demand for Child Care

Children Served by Age

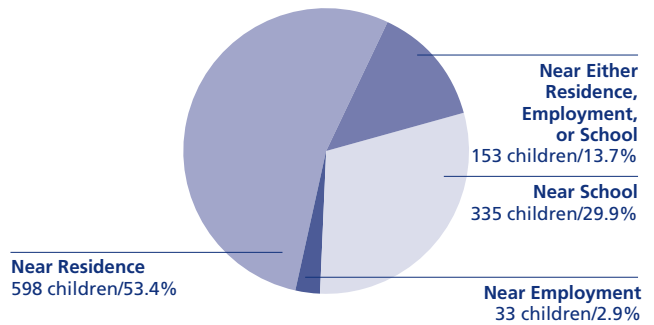
N=1,119



Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Howard County Child Care Resource Center (7/1/08-6/30/09).

Children Served by Locational Preferences for Care

N=1,119

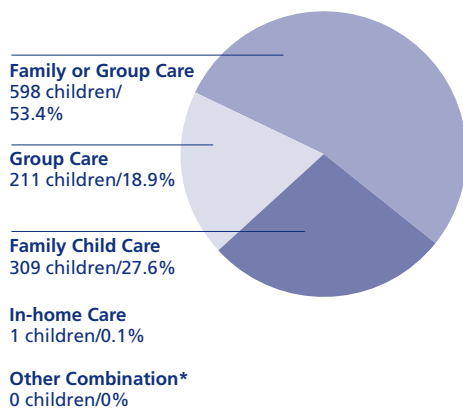


Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Howard County Child Care Resource Center (7/1/08-6/30/09).

Note: Percentages do not total 100% because of rounding.

Children Served by Type of Care Preferred

N=1,119

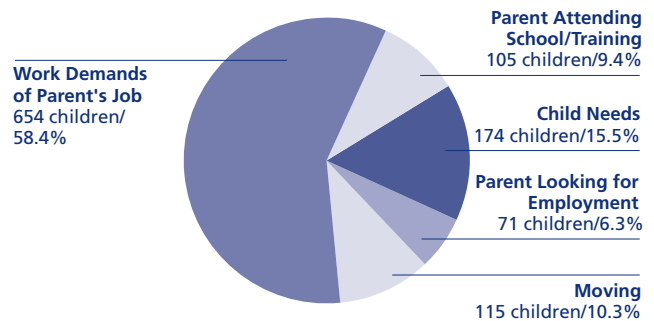


Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Howard County Child Care Resource Center (7/1/08-6/30/09).

* Indicates all other combinations of Family Care, Group Care and In-home Care

Reason Child Care is Needed

N=1,119



Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Howard County Child Care Resource Center (7/1/08-6/30/09).

Note: Percentages do not total 100% because of rounding.

Demand for Child Care

Number of Children Served by LOCATE: Child Care
1,119 children (7/1/08-6/30/09)

Full-time or Part-time Care Needs of Children Served

N=1,119

Full-time: 592 children (52.9%)

Part-time: 492 children (44.0%)

Other*: 35 children (3.1%)

* Includes requests for sick, backup and temporary care.

Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Howard County Child Care Resource Center (7/1/08-6/30/09).

Child Care Subsidy Program (formerly POC)

LOCATE calls received from parents with children eligible for Child Care Subsidy
149 (13.3% of all calls)

LOCATE calls received from parents with children receiving Child Care Subsidy
224 (20.0% of all calls)

Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Howard County Child Care Resource Center (7/1/08-6/30/09).

Major Reasons Parents Could Not Find Child Care in Howard County

Reason	Count
Cost	48
No care for infant	12
Other	11
Schedule	10
Quality of care	8
Combination of ages	7
Location	3
No vacancies for school age	2
No vacancies for preschool	1
Special needs experience	1

Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Howard County Child Care Resource Center (7/1/08-6/30/09).

Major Factors Important to Parents Who Found Child Care in Howard County

Reason	Count
Quality of care	66
Proximity to home	64
Cost	39
Educational program	30
Hours of operation	26
Appearance/facilities	23
Escort	20
Family setting	20
Only provider/program with vacancy	20
Proximity to work	20
Proximity to school	16
Group size	12
Special needs experience	6
Did not provide response	5
Nearby transportation	4
Offered part time care	4

Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Howard County Child Care Resource Center (7/1/08-6/30/09).

Supply of Child Care

Child Care Subsidy Program

Family Child Care Providers willing to care for CCS children in Howard County
287 (63.9% of total family child care providers)

Child Care Centers willing to care for CCS children in Howard County
65 (79.3% of total child care centers)

Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, 7/09.

Howard County FY 10 Allocation
\$3,923,964 = 721 full-time children

Source: Maryland State Department of Education, Office of Child Care.

Special Needs Child Care

Family providers who serve/have served children with special needs
256 (57.0% of total family child care providers in Howard)

Centers who serve/have served children with special needs
66 (80.5% of total child care centers in Howard)

Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, 7/09.

Definitions

Before/After-School Care: School-Age child care offers care to children enrolled in Kindergarten or above. Care is provided before and/or after school and during school holidays/vacations. Programs are licensed by the Office of Child Care. Programs may operate from a school building or other licensed facility.

Census of Population and Housing: There are two versions of the 2000 Census questionnaire: a short form which asks a limited number of population and housing questions of all households, and a long form questionnaire which asks additional social and economic questions of a sample of all households. The data contained in the Census Summary Tape File 1 A (STF 1 A) are based on the questions which were asked of all persons, while the data from the Census Summary Tape File 3A (STF 3A) are based on the sample questionnaire. The user should note that data obtained from a sample are subject to sampling variability, and that there are limitations to many of these data.

Child Care: The care or supervision of a child when the child's parent has given the child's care over to another for some portion of a 24-hour-day as a supplement to the parent's primary care of the child. (OCC)

Child Care Center: Child care provided in a facility that, for part or all of the day, provides care to children in the absence of the parent. Centers are licensed by the Office of Child Care.

Child Care Subsidy Program (formerly POC): Provides financial assistance to eligible families in securing care for their children in registered family child care homes or licensed child care centers while parents/guardians are attending school, working, or in job training.

Children with Special Needs: Children who, because of a disability or other special educational, developmental, physical, emotional, behavioral, or medical condition, require additional care, or whose activities are restricted by a certain condition. (OCC)

Current Median Family Income: Current median family income is the value presented in the Economic Development Intelligence System, (EDIS) 2nd Quarter 2009 report.

Current Population Estimates: Current population estimates are based on GeoLytics, Inc. Estimate Professional 2009/2014.

Educational Attainment: The highest level of school completed or the highest degree received. Educational attainment figures were used for persons over 25 years of age. (U.S. Bureau of the Census)

Effective Buying Income: Personal income less personal tax and nontax payments. It is commonly known as "Disposable personal income." (DBED)

Employer-Sponsored Centers: A child care center located on-site or off-site which is sponsored by a corporation, business, or other employer. Employees are given priority for enrollment slots.

Family Child Care: The care given to a child younger than 13 years old or to a developmentally disabled person younger than 21 years old, in place of parental care for less than 24 hours a day, in a residence other than the child's residence and for which the provider is paid. Regulations allow a family child care provider to care for as many as eight children at any time. (OCC)

Family Household Income: Family includes a householder and one or more persons living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. A household can contain only one family for purposes of census tabulations. Information on money income received in the calendar year 1999 was requested from persons 15 years and over. (U.S. Bureau of the Census)

Head Start: Project Head Start provides comprehensive developmental services for children from low-income families. Head Start is comprised of four components including Education, Health, Parent Involvement, and Social Services. Head Start Centers serve children from age 3 to school entry age from income eligible families.

Infant/Toddler: In the State of Maryland, "infant" means a child under 18 months old. "Toddler" means a child 18 months old or older but younger than 2 years old. (OCC) MFN reports "infant" as a child birth through 23 months of age.

Kindergarten: An instructional program for children who are 5 years old by September 1st of each academic year. Programs may be operated by a private or public school. Kindergarten is the year of school which precedes entrance to first grade.

The National Child Care Survey 1990: (NCCS) contains information on demand and parental preferences for care based on a nationally representative sample of families with children younger than age 13. The NCCS examined the type of care and education (excluding formal schooling) that parents use to supplement their own care of children. Employed mothers were surveyed regarding the primary supplemental care arrangements used for the most hours per week by their youngest child excluding school or kindergarten attendance.

Definitions

The results indicate that 66% of the employed mothers surveyed used no supplemental care, or utilized care by relatives, by caregivers in the child's own home, or other arrangements. Family child care homes or child care centers were used as the primary supplemental care arrangement by the remaining 34%. The mother's utilization of out-of-home care varied with the age of the child, with 42% of children under 3 years of age, 60% of children ages 3-4 years, and 21% of children 5-12 years placed in these settings for supplemental care.

Nursery Schools: An instructional program approved or exempted by the Maryland State Department of Education for children who are two through four years old. The maximum length of the program is 6 hours per day, however most operate only a few hours per day and may meet only two or three times per week for a nine month period.

Owner Costs with Mortgage (Selected Monthly): The sum of payments for mortgages, deeds of trust, contracts to purchase, or similar debts on the property; real estate taxes; fire hazard, and flood insurance on the property; utilities; and fuels. It also includes, where appropriate, the monthly condominium fees or mobile home costs. A housing unit is owner-occupied if the owner or co-owner lives in the unit even if it is mortgaged or not fully paid for. (U.S. Bureau of the Census)

Part Day: A program regulated by OCC with an educational focus for children one or two years before entering kindergarten. These programs are usually 2-3 hrs/day, 2-3 days/week, nine months/year.

Pre-Kindergarten: These are publicly funded pre-kindergarten programs for eligible 4-year-old children administered by local boards of education or qualified vendors. The programs have the overall goal of providing learning experiences to help children develop and maintain school readiness skills necessary for successful school performance. Local school systems shall enroll all 4-year-old applicants from economically disadvantaged or homeless families.

Poverty Level: The poverty guideline for a family of four persons was \$22,050 in 2009. (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, OCT 2009)

Renter Occupied Gross Monthly Rent: Monthly contract rent plus the estimated average monthly cost of utilities and fuels, if these are paid by the renter. All occupied housing units which are not owner-occupied, whether they are rented for cash rent or occupied without payment of cash rent, are classified as renter-occupied. (U.S. Bureau of the Census)

Small Centers: A small center is licensed by the Office of Child Care for a maximum of 12 children. It may be in a residential or non-residential setting.

Unemployment Rate: Civilians 16 years old and over are classified unemployed if they (1) were neither "at work" nor "with a job but not at work" during the reference week, and (2) were looking for work during the last four weeks, and (3) were available to accept a job. Also included were civilians who did not work at all during the reference week and were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off. (U.S. Bureau of the Census)

Youth Camps (Licensed): A day camp, residential camp, travel camp, or trip camp licensed by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.



The Maryland Child Care Resource Network is a public/private partnership designed to expand and improve child care delivery. MFN manages the Network and operates as the Statewide Coordinating Entity. MFN wishes to acknowledge the contributions of the Howard County Child Care Resource Center in the compilation of the Howard County Report. Funding for this publication was made available by MFN, the Maryland State Department of Education, and Maryland's business community.

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This publication was produced as a work for hire for the benefit of, and with funds from, the Maryland State Department of Education.

